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# Orange Shirt Day

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# What is Orange Shirt Day?

Orange Shirt Day, otherwise known as National Truth and Reconciliation Day, is a day to recognize the effects of the Indian Residential School System on Indigenous communities.

It was established in 2013 and was inspired by the story of Phyllis Jack Webstad, whose orange shirt was taken from her on her first day at a residential school and never returned.

Today, the orange shirt symbolizes how the residential school system took away the identities of Indigenous people.

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[Photo by Chris Robert on Unsplash](#)

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# Why do we recognize it?

We recognize Orange Shirt Day to remember and honour the survivors of the residential school system who were taken from their families.

By wearing an orange shirt, you are spreading awareness and supporting the message that “Every Child Matters.”

We must recognize what happened, even if it’s painful. We can’t turn a blind eye, because there is no reconciliation without truth.

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[Photo by Divina Clark on Unsplash](#)

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# Resources

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Day\\_for\\_Truth\\_and\\_Reconciliation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Day_for_Truth_and_Reconciliation)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>

[Photo by Tandem X Visuals on Unsplash](#)

